

New York Tribune

First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorial—Advertisements

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The Russian Situation

As the situation stands in Russia to-day it is quite beyond contemporary understanding or phrasing. One could imagine Thomas Carlyle writing a chapter headed "Chaos" and then directing at the Russian Revolution that same tremendous sweep of rhetoric which through so many chapters half eliminates and half vitalizes the French Revolution.

But, after all, it is only for the prophet to say what is going to happen in Russia, and for the historian who comes hereafter to say what has happened. After three or four months of revolution the least that the outside world can recognize is that it understands nothing of the Russian situation.

If one is to believe the present fact, the fact vouched for by the Petrograd dispatches, a new Alexander has set out to mount the Russian Bucephalus. All the world with Allied sympathies hopes and trusts that Kerensky may ride it, and there is the suggestion in his first words of that Napoleonic method which Carlyle called the "whiff of grapeshot."

Yet, all that anybody can see is that the prospect of a successful Russian participation in the military operations of this year or next is fading. It is no longer possible for those who would have us misunderstand Russia physically that we might sympathize with her morally to represent Russia as reorganized and reborn by the Revolution, or by the latest phase of the Revolution, or by the last, brilliant, destructive burst of anarchy, into a first class military nation.

It is obviously quite different in Russia. The little Russian offensive, which wakened so much hope, has had as its morrow not victory, but disintegration. The Russian soldiers who fought bravely at Konichy and won brilliantly at Kaluszka are on the run. They pause only to utter new and profound philosophic and moral speculations, which have so far failed to check the onrushing Germans. We see anarchy in the ranks, lack of discipline, lack of proportion, the transformation of military procedure to direct primary and caucus methods, as a fitting entity.

This is exactly what one should have expected to happen. This is exactly what most military observers did expect. Even when Russia did make her offensive the other day, and there was the first faint suggestion of a success resembling the success of Brusiloff of last year, there was still an unmistakable feeling among all military and most political observers that the thing was too good to be true; that it could not last; that its sole chance of real success lay in the possibility that the Austrian disintegration had gone one step beyond the Russian, and that the Russian attack might produce an Austrian collapse before it fell itself.

All this is over now. Unless all signs fail, we are going to see a swift, sure, brutal, successful German drive into Russia. We are going to see Russian resistance crushed and Russian armies disintegrated, as the army facing the Strypa has already been disintegrated. We are going to see German soldiers in the field reap the harvest sown by German spies and intriguers behind the Russian lines. Above all, we are going to see Germany make one more colossal bid for a decision and to impress upon the minds of men that she is unconquerable. The next two or three months may easily be filled with the history of Russian defeat and German victory. We may see the German armies in Petrograd, Moscow and Kiev. The sole question will be to what extent Germany's limited man power now will be available for this tremendous military and moral demonstration.

When the campaign of 1917 is over Germany may well again propose peace, as she did last year after her great Rumanian success, this time with a Russian triumph far more considerable filling the minds and hearts of men. Then the question of peace

or war in Europe will be the question of what the United States can do and will do in the course of the next year.

No one should misunderstand the meaning to Americans of the present Russian military collapse. It means that American lives and American resources must be drawn upon to replace the Russian. It means that Germany will win the war on her own terms if the United States is not ready in spirit and prepared in material to take a considerable part in the campaign of 1918.

Germany is once more near to victory in this war. There is no mistaking the fact that the consciousness of this was the sole factor in silencing domestic tumult in the German crisis the other day. Proof of the Russian collapse was already in German hands. Now that Russia has collapsed it is time to put away all thought and all talk of peace, because peace we cannot talk with a victorious Germany, with a Germany dominating Europe from the Meuse to the Niemen and from the Baltic to the Golden Horn. Peace we cannot talk with a Germany still fortified in the ruins of Belgium, Northern France, Western Russia, Rumania, Serbia, Montenegro, Eastern Macedonia and all the Turkish lands from the Straits to Suez and Mesopotamia.

The Russian collapse means that the American soldiers who are now being summoned will have to fill the place on the European firing line vacated by those Russian soldiers who listened to German voices speaking international amity while they sought universal dominion. So far as one can now see, Germany has stifled the Russian Revolution, and it must be interesting to Americans to remember how similar to the methods she employed in Russia were the methods used by Germany in the United States, with the same end in view and the same lofty intentions on her lips.

Prospects of the Irish Convention

It is impossible to look forward with much hope to the outcome of the deliberations which begin in Dublin to-day. A fundamental condition of success was, as Mr. Lloyd George admitted and as every one recognized, that Irishmen of all creeds and parties should be adequately represented. In no other way was it to be expected that a large assembly could "finally compose the unhappy discords which have so long distracted Ireland and impeded its harmonious development." Otherwise, indeed, the prospect of success would be more promising had it been possible for a very few leading Irishmen to gather together and endeavor to work out a solution in private. As it is, the convention seems to be neither widely nor representative.

The fatal weakness of the assembly lies in the abstention of Sinn Féin. No one knows how strong that party is and no one can know for the plain reason that until quite lately it could hardly be described as a party at all. It was rather a school of thought, but that is now a political party, which has taken definite shape, and has already an immense influence in Ireland recent events have shown clearly enough. It seems to be excellently organized and growing steadily in power, especially since the amnesty for last year's insurrection and the general relaxation of repressive orders. Obviously, it ought, under the circumstances, to be represented in an assembly called for the purpose of drafting a constitution for the future government of the country.

The leaders, however, refused to have anything to do with the convention, their aim being the establishment of an Irish republic, which naturally cannot be considered under the terms of reference. They are waiting for the peace conference after the war, and in the meantime their avowed intention is to make things as uncomfortable as possible for England. The new member for East Clare, urging the young men of that county to enroll themselves in the Irish volunteers, warned them that it was "an army more dangerous than the British army," but added that in joining it they would know they were fighting for Ireland. Talk of this sort is common to-day, and people boast openly of what might be done by "the armed young men of Ireland."

When the government resolved to release the Sinn Féin prisoners it was explained that one purpose was to create before the convention an atmosphere favorable to conciliation and harmony. There is a new atmosphere in Ireland now, but it is not the kind of atmosphere the peace makers wanted. Moreover, the result of the East Clare elections has virtually annulled in advance any decision that may be achieved by the conference in Dublin.

One who has followed conditions in Ireland closely put the case plainly before the election had been decided. "A Sinn Féin victory in East Clare," he said, "would at once render the convention useless and ridiculous. It would be stupidity and weakness beyond even the record of the Irish Office to attach the least value to anything that the convention may possibly agree to after that. Surely even Mr. Lloyd George understands when his last weapon breaks in his hands."

It is clear, then, why no one can look forward to the discussions which begin to-day with more than a passive and detached curiosity. There will be a great deal of talk, and it is conceivable, though by no means inevitable, that some sort of compromise will be agreed to. Mr. William O'Brien appears to suspect that partition will be suggested, but that is altogether unlikely, considering the common opposition to that policy among Irishmen of the most divergent and conflicting views. But it does not really matter, for no decision

that can possibly be reached will be accepted by the republican element in Ireland to-day. The real test will come later.

The Shipping Board Shake-Up

In working his way out of the Shipping Board middle President Wilson followed the line of least resistance. He could not retain Mr. Denman as chairman of the board. But for political reasons Mr. Denman's face had to be saved, so General Goethals's services were also dispensed with. Each combatant in the wooden ship-steel ship fracas can now claim a draw. Each can march off the field with the satisfaction of not having lowered his sword to the other.

General Goethals's reputation is dimmed and his great abilities are sacrificed in order to cover the humiliation of one of the Administration's most inefficient political appointees. Mr. Denman was put on the Shipping Board in payment of political obligations. He was made head of the board as the result of an intrigue which drove from that body its only competent member, Mr. Bernard N. Baker, of Baltimore. Mr. Baker is a shipping man of large experience and proved capacity. He was shunted aside for an admiralty lawyer.

In an interview published the other day Mr. Baker drew this picture of the ex-chairman of the Shipping Board: Mr. Denman knows nothing about ships. His sole qualifications for the position were that he had had some experience as a lawyer on the Pacific Coast in prosecuting claims against other shipowners for alleged infringement of our rights on the sea. His fringement was wholly innocent of any knowledge which would assist in the building of a great fleet. He will not cooperate with General Goethals and he insists on adhering to the programme for building wooden ships instead of steel ships.

As a matter of fact, he has said that he purposes to make the chief work of the United States Shipping Board the collection of claims from Great Britain for the infringement of our rights. This when Great Britain is our ally will be very embarrassing to President Wilson. As a result of these tactics five months have passed and the board has no definite policy. It has not determined whether it will build steel or wooden ships. Mr. Denman should be replaced at once by a man who really knows ships and who is big enough to see the necessities of the situation.

The Tribune believed that Mr. Denman's continuance in an office which he was grossly incompetent to fill was a scandal. It said last week that he ought to be retired. It now thinks that an unnecessary price was paid for his retirement. General Goethals has not had that fair opportunity to show what he could do which he was led to believe he would have when he took office. He has been treated shabbily. He has been made a scapegoat for the shortcomings of others.

But we are in a state of war. General Goethals will undoubtedly suffer the wrongs done him with the fortitude of a soldier and a patriot. He will await a vindication, and will have the full sympathy of the public while awaiting it. His wrongs are an incident. Not forgetting them, the country will turn with hope to the new heads of the board and of the subsidiary building corporation. What is needed most now is administrative energy, inspired by unity of counsel. Admiral Capps was for many years the head of the Bureau of Construction of the Navy Department. The country will be reassured by the knowledge that he has in the fullest measure the technical training required for ship designing and construction. Mr. Hurley is an efficient and broad-minded administrator. It is the country's wish that they should work in harmony. And it is even more important that they should get to work.

Ships, Food and Authority

(From The Springfield Republic)

It is not true that all ship construction is being held up by the Goethals-Denman differences in the Shipping Board. Every shipyard in the United States is working to its full capacity, and will continue to do so.

But every day of delay on account of the difficulty the principals have in harmonizing their views postpones the work for the government, which is to be done in the new government shipbuilding plants, which are now imperatively needed. The delay in awarding new contracts to plants already in operation, also, must adversely affect the interests of this country in the war.

The organization for executing the government programme is fundamentally at fault, it appears, in that there is a multiplicity of men in authority. The Shipping Board itself has several members, and with General Goethals added, in the role of an executive manager of the fleet corporation, it is a case of too many cooks spoiling the broth.

For emergency purposes power concentrated in the hands of one man usually yields the best results, and if the entire shipping problem could now be passed over to a single autocratic individual, who could be held responsible for the output of ships, the situation would probably be improved.

The same mistake is being perpetrated in the food bill by the Senate compromise, which substitutes a three-headed commission for a single administrator. At a source of revenue turned up on the commission some obstinate creature who will make it his business to fight Mr. Hoover, which is undoubtedly the hope of the mischief makers.

The Cost of the Dog

(From The Portland Oregonian)

The dog is coming in for close scrutiny from the economic viewpoint. It seems inhospitable, to say the least, to count the value of devotion in dollars and cents, and "man's best friend" has always heretofore been regarded on a sentimental basis, but war is war, and there is a growing inclination to investigate.

It is estimated by "The Manufacturers' Record" that there are 25,000,000 dogs in the United States. At a source of revenue they would produce \$50,000,000 if taxed at the rate of \$2 a head, provided the owners of a lot of worthless curs did not kill them rather than pay the tax. The same writer estimates that the average dog consumes food worth 70 cents every week. Authority for this figure is not given, but the argument that much of the food a dog eats would not be consumed by humans in any event can be anticipated with the statement that if it were fed to other animals, such as pigs and poultry, it would be converted into food supply for the people. Seventy cents a week for each of 25,000,000 dogs means \$910,000,000 a year, which would feed a good many children in Belgium and Poland. It appears, therefore, that the figure is too high; in any event the amount is very large.

A Caveman in Office

Ex-Head of Shipping Board Likened to the Megatherium

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Browning through the files of the esteemed Tribune of a generation ago, I was halted by these prescient lines by one of your editorial predecessors. Hear him speak as of to-day in the issue of August 3, 1889: "No wooden craft of any account disgraces this enlightened age in carrying human beings across the ocean. Steel vessels have superseded the old style fleets of wood. Why should not steel vehicles do the transportation across the continents and from place to place? Steel cars, properly constructed, of course, would have all the advantages of wooden cars without any of their defects. In the first place, the steel car would be incomparably stronger in cases of accident. It would be at the same time fireproof, and as a matter of economy in the management of railroads it would be lighter and far more durable than one of the present cars."

In the twenty-eight years of subsequent development great strides have been made, so that the distance and difference between ships and cars of steel and the long obsolete types of wooden construction are so great as to render a return to the weaker, unsafe and perishable material absolutely unthinkable. When a hundred million generously people are urged to eat one slice of bread less per day in order that three hundred million far needier people may have a few morsels more, to witness a propaganda to spend hundreds of millions of dollars upon ephemeral and relatively inefficient ships, hastily flung together out of green sawed lumber, may be safely set down as one of the extravagant hallucinations of an unsound mind, incapable of normal judgment.

But difficult to realize though it be, it seems to be true that a troglodyte, a veritable caveman, one William Denman, true to name and type, has been dug up from the fossil beds of the West, and, with a few "meat-eaters," has been set up in Washington as a Shipping Board. And, so mistreated are the cavemen and his Fridays for the life and duties of to-day that they have looked with complacency on the diversion by the astute Japanese of millions of tons of our ship construction steel while they have fiddled along to get Engineer Goethals to waste his energies on wooden canoes for transatlantic service, and while we let our steel go into Japanese shipping of permanent, serviceable value.

It would be "to laugh," if it were not so exasperating. You will remember we once had a president of the Board of Education who was disrespectfully characterized as an "educational mastodon." I would not be so disrespectful to the extinct but in its time efficient mastodon as to classify it with the troglodyte, or caveman; but I might designate the latter as a megatherium, the great sloth, who lumbers in the way of the famous West Point engineer.

Can you, can any man of intelligence, imagine a greater absurdity than for a man of the scientific and practical attainments of Engineer Goethals being coerced by such a man as Denman, who, like Topsy, "just grewed"? GEORGE W. DITHRIDGE, Hollis, Long Island, July 18, 1917.

Osteopaths and the Army

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I was interested to read in The Tribune for July 21, 1917, a letter from a practitioner in osteopathy with regard to the bill in Congress "to provide for the selection of osteopathic physicians in the medical service of the army and navy of the United States."

As I have been president of the board of examiners for the Medical Reserve Corps for three months and have seen personally, or looked over, the papers of every applicant, I question the statement of the writer that "almost a thousand osteopaths have volunteered their services at the front." As a matter of fact, these gentlemen have been conspicuous by their absence from recruiting stations in this State.

I do not bring against osteopathy, or any other cult, when it is honest, as all men know, but I question the "right" of osteopaths to be admitted to the Medical Reserve Corps unless they hold the degree of M. D. This is not narrow prejudice, but ordinary common sense.

Patriotism is always commendable, but misdirected patriotism, under whatever specious guise it may be presented, is a delusion. HENRY C. COE, Major Medical Reserve Corps, U. S. A., New York, July 21, 1917.

An Efficient Department

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: As so many people are hammering the Police Department just now, in connection with the Cocchi affair, I think it is only fair play to tell you my experience to-day with the department. We rang up Headquarters to say that our house was about to be closed for the summer. Within a few minutes an officer appeared. Upon inquiry (thinking that they had misunderstood our communication), I was delighted to find that he had been sent promptly over to see if my scuttle and manhole were properly fastened. This is the first time in twenty years' experience that this thoroughness and efficiency should be given as much publicity as we are accustomed to give to all kinds of "knocks" and criticisms. I am convinced that never before has the Police Department reached so high a mark as in this administration. ANNIE NATHAN MEYER, New York, July 20, 1917.

A Chance for Drafted Men

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The War Department has announced that all future officers are to be taken from the ranks (the National Army included). Here is an opportunity for red-blooded men who expect to be drafted to acquaint themselves with military duty and become candidates for officers. The writer for over two months has been a member of Dr. Boyce's Military Training Corps. We drill at Governor's Island, instructed by regular army sergeants, with real army rifles. Drills take place on Saturday and Sunday at 1:45 p. m. On other days at 3:45 p. m.; also on Monday and Friday evenings. No red tape. Anybody can join. Come when you can. Take boat at Battery. In addition to drills we have military lectures by army officers and military hikes every two weeks. Information can be obtained at 19 West 44th Street (phone Vanderbilt 4660), or at Governor's Island. MURRAY RINGOLD, New York, July 22, 1917.

Bryan, Daniels, Baker and Anna Shaw

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Mrs. Ida Husted Harper, in her reply to Miss Forbes's letter, speaks of a searchlight having been turned upon all women, in consequence of which Dr. Anna Howard Shaw shone forth as the one woman fitted to be made the head of the woman's committee of the Council of National Defense. Is this the same searchlight which, when turned upon all men, gave us Bryan as Secretary of State, and later Daniels for the Navy and Baker for War? M. K. V. WHITE, Milton, Mass., July 16, 1917.

Norway's Difficult Position

By N. A. Grevstad

Norway, weak in food resources and man power, but strong in ships, has been in a position of perplexing difficulties and constant perils during the progress of the war. To live or not to live—that is the question of unrestricted German submarine warfare as applied to Norway. From time immemorial she has been living by the sea and on the sea, and still depends upon a free sea to keep her people in food and work. The German submarine policy has threatened not only the destruction of her splendid merchant marine, so necessary to the life and welfare of her people, but is a general and direct denial of one of the most vital principles upon which rests her existence as a free and growing nation.

Undaunted by Threats

She might have bought practical immunity for her ships by accepting German rules for their sailings. But that would have been a surrender of her rights under established sea law. Undaunted by the ominous threats, she sent her ships through the waters infested by mines and periscopes, and her sons were brave enough to man them, though they knew that they might be sailing to their death—as hundreds of them did.

While the pluck of the Norwegian people and their government has won for the old "Sage-land" the respect of other countries, it is not so generally known or understood that Norway has been able to maintain her firm policy in spite of conflicts raging in her own bosom. She is largely Teutonic in blood, speech, creed and general culture, but decidedly western—English, French, American—in her social fabric and political ideals.

The old Teutonic God-lore, hero-lore and folk-lore attained their highest expression not in Germany, but in Norway. Early Germanic literature has nothing comparable to the Norse sagas and other writings, where Wagner found all ready-made his galaxy of heroes and heroines. Similarly, old Norse law represents the early Teutonic ideal of social justice in its clearest form. The Hansa League obtained a firm foothold in Norway, and in other northern lands, and though it was finally driven out, Germans have ever since taken a leading part in the industrial and commercial development of the country.

Culture Teutonic, Sympathies Pro-Ally

With the adoption of the faith of Luther German influences in theology became predominant and gradually extended to the sciences, literature and art. Norway's real relations with Germany, if on the whole less dependent, have been even closer. Ibsen, Björnson and the lesser lights of her modern literary renaissance have passed into the world at large through the door of Germany. Her musicians, painters, engineers, etc., have received finishing touches in German conservatories, studios or schools. Hamburg has been the greatest of foreign ports for Norwegian trade. It is needless to add that at the outbreak of the war the army officers of Norway, like those of most neutral countries, were largely pro-German in their sympathies.

Thus, Norway took her place as a spectator of the war, honeycombed with German cultural ideas and enmeshed in German relations on every hand. The university, the army, the schools, the Church and to a large extent her commerce were sources and centers of strong German influence. To cap it all, trade with Germany was hugely profitable. And yet, somewhat strange as it may seem, the sympathies of the Norwegian people have been pro-Ally from the time the first shot was fired by

Enlistments in Vermont

The Green Mountain State Has Not Been a Slacker

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: During the last few weeks statements have appeared repeatedly in the press with reference to the small number of enlistments from the State of Vermont. The true condition of affairs as shown up by the actual figures may be of interest to those Vermonters at least who take a pride in the old record of the Green Mountain Boys and their present standing.

The per cent of estimated population of the United States which entered the military service of the country through the National Guard and the regular army from April 1 to June 30, 1917, was .0044. Vermont's per cent was .00738. Only eight states and territories are ahead of Vermont—Hawaii, Oregon, District of Columbia, Montana, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Wyoming, in the order named. It is interesting to notice that four out of the first nine states on the list are within the New England group.

The per cent in the other New England states is as follows: Maine, .0081; New Hampshire, .0078; Massachusetts, .0069; Rhode Island, .0077; Connecticut, .0045.

Compared with Massachusetts, for instance, Vermont has furnished for the military service during this period 1 to 135 population, and Massachusetts 1 to 175 population. Vermont's quota of the draft for 687,000 men on the basis of estimated population would be 1,932 men. We are required to furnish 1,049, thus showing that we have already furnished 885 more than our proper share.

Our National Guard has been in the Federal service since April 2. Consequently, men in that branch are and have been just as effectively in the service of the country as though they had been in the regular army. HAROLD LADD SMITH, Proctor, Vt., July 21, 1917.

Rejected Volunteers and the Draft

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Almost four months have elapsed since war was declared and as yet there has been no provision made for "rejected volunteers." By the term "rejected volunteers" I mean those men who volunteered their services previous to the registration date, which was June 5, and who were not accepted.

The newspapers from coast to coast shouted "Volunteer! The country needs men!" The billboards all over the United States sent forth the same call, and after it is all said and done what consideration does a volunteer get? He applies for enlistment, is examined and rejected, even gets a card signed by the examining officer to prove that he was turned down; but in spite of this he is forced to register on June 5, along with the conscripts, and later on is given a draft number.

Up to the present date the newspapers have made no announcements as to the whereabouts of any military offices at which rejected men can present their cards and obtain a badge or certificate of some sort to show that they have done what was asked of them by the government. They ought to have been spared the humiliation of having to register for the draft, let alone having to stand the ordeal of being sent for when a number is placed alongside of their names on that selective list. JOHN H. FILMAN, New York, July 22, 1917.

Dr. Singer and Tacitus

Showing the German-American Editor To Be a Superficial Reader

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Dr. Michael Singer, "German-American editor," in citing Tacitus for June 5, is guilty of suppressio veri, lausque falsi. If Germany is on trial, ethically and morally, The Tribune, as protagonist of the "truth," will surely accept additional evidence, pro et contra.

Both Caesar and Tacitus record that Lorraine is "disputed territory"; but Tacitus, it is true, praises German chivalry, and later, the famous Englishman Dr. Arnold wrote of German stock as one "of the most moral races of men the world has yet seen, with the soundest laws, the least violent passions, the fairest domestic and civil virtues."

Mr. Andrew D. White, our Ambassador to Germany, in a lecture at Berlin in 1899, said: "Prussia, after having been crushed by Napoleon, began a thorough evolution of its strength. Prussia began that evolution manfully, nobly, quietly. The moral system of Kant was evolved—the categorical imperative—the ethical idea of duty. 'Thou shalt, thou shalt not.' . . . The result was the coming of Emperor William and Bismarck. And so was evolved the German Empire. Prussia has advanced by a steady evolution of the moral sense of her people, so that she has presented one of the most glorious chapters in the history of human progress."

Tacitus dwells on the "bestial drunkenness" of the German race, referred to with disgust by Montaigne and perpetuated by Bismarck's affirmation that the human intellect began to work properly "only after two bottles." Tacitus asserts that "their leader commands by example, and not by authority; if he is always parading himself before the people their admiration becomes another form of obedience." The German prefers to gain by slaughter rather than by toil." Recent peace propositions by the Germans emphasize Tacitus of the German: "under Agricola 'Solitudinem faciunt pacem appellant.'" Caesar forebore "Deutschland über Alles," when in his Commentaries he stated: "The Germans think they are superior to all on earth, and that not even the immortal gods are their equals."

"War," said Mirabeau, "is the national industry of Prussia." Gouverneur Morris, our Minister to France in 1794, wrote James Madison: "The character of this people (Prussians) formed by a succession of rapacious kings, is turned to usurpation."

Juvenal said, 2,000 years ago, "Nemo repente fuit turpissimus." If Dr. Singer demands the incorporation among us of the "German spirit" because Frederick II was an ideal democrat, "the chief servant of the state," others recall Dietrich, "Frederick II was a great king, a bad man, and a dealer in counterfeit coin"; and the world cannot forget that because of close contact with his own people Frederick said of mankind: "Er kennt nicht diese verdammt's Rasse." Paris, June 24, 1917. LESLIE CHASE

Wants Woman Suffrage Repealed

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I would like to suggest the immediate cessation of all woman suffrage agitation and propaganda. The further extension of the franchise to women should be stopped forthwith. Moreover, in the Western United States "votes for women" should be repealed. I have lived in the West, and I know that woman suffrage is not only an utter failure, but a menace to the state and to women.

It is an intolerable situation that the manhood of this nation should be conscripted and that men should hold themselves in readiness to defend this government to the ultimate point of sacrifice, in order to place the reins of government in the hands of dominant women leaders. The whole trend of feminism is forcing men into subservience to women. Innumerable examples of this may be discerned in the United States by any one so discerning enough to read the signs of the times.

It is time to call a halt. Government is man's work, and the woman who appears neither the rights nor the responsibilities of men is an egotist. Egotism is the root of all mania. If the suffragist considers herself the "equal" of man, then she should demonstrate it, not by parading, breaking the law or firing verbal shots, but by shouldering a gun and getting into the trenches. INDIGNANT MOTHER, Hillsdale, N. Y., July 19, 1917.

Liquor and Law

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: To-day on the back page of The Tribune there is an item of some new protestant association of liquor men. It is intimated that the prohibition of whiskey and other strong drinks will knock out the saloons, for they cannot meet their expenses on beer and wine only.

That liberty-loving institution the liquor trade will find out a way to make any law a laughing stock.

To-day the saloons are prohibited to sell men in uniform. They are obeyed? Not by a jugful. They sell to a man in uniform just as they sell to the police, on the fly.

There is no law the liquor saloon will obey unless forced to. Why, to-day if the liquor laws were enforced over 2,000 saloons would be closed up, crime would be diminished, homes would be brightened, burdens would be made easier, and the city would make a long step in the path of righteousness and holiness and a just liberty. JAMES V. CHALMERS, New York, July 21, 1917.

Red Cross Dividends

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I read the letter of Edward Prescott in re Red Cross dividends with interest, but I don't understand what right the directors have to declare these dividends belonging to the second and third centuries A. D. "The architecture in question" grew up in the Ile de France—that is, the region of France near Paris, about one thousand years later, so you see, the error is considerable. CHARLES A. DOWNER, New York, July 23, 1917.

A German Peace

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: What do they mean by a German peace or honorable peace? B goes out and says to his gang, "Now I'm going to give a good trimming." He meets A, and they start slugging each other, and B finds that A is no slouch and is gradually getting the better of him. B thinks, "What will I say to my gang if I get a beating?" So he digs down in his pocket and offers A a ten spot to call it square. Perhaps that is Germany's idea of an honorable peace. V. BOETSCH, Elizabeth, N. J., July 22, 1917.

The Tribune's Draft Report

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I wish to thank you for the interest you have taken in this morning's paper and arranged the draft numbers in a way so it was not necessary to go blind in finding one's number. C. New York, July 21, 1917.